

Media Release

Peak Body Calls for Rectification of Combustible Cladding to be Accelerated

Queensland's peak body for the body corporate sector has called for combustible cladding to be removed from identified buildings as quickly as possible after legislation debated in State Parliament this week made enforcement of current compliance legislation easier.

SCA (Qld) President Kristi Kinast said that while making enforcement of breaches easier was important, rectification of combustible cladding needed to be the top priority.

"We have worked hand in glove with the Government throughout this entire process- safety is our top priority," said Ms Kinast.

"It is a positive step to make it easier to enforce breaches which is the intent of the *Building and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (Qld) 2022* but we will only make these buildings safe if we remove the cladding- this must be the policy priority for Government."

"Put simply, we want to see the safety of Queensland apartment residents assured. Without getting this stuff off, that task is impossible."

Ms Kinast said the process thus far had been difficult to manage but hoped there was light at the end of the tunnel.

"This process has been complex and expensive for many strata communities, but they have managed thus far. We are happy to see enforcement simplified but would be much happier to see a concrete plan for rectification," said Ms Kinast.

"These buildings will only be made safe by getting this dangerous material removed, and we urge the Government to work with us to accelerate this as a priority. Residents will only be safe when cladding is removed permanently."

"This can literally be a life or death matter, and without appropriate intervention by Government to help push rectification over the line, each day we fail to do this we are potentially gambling with the lives of Queenslanders."

Ms Kinast said the high rise building sector was crying out for confidence and the Government is working with industry to restore faith.

"Whether its serious defects like Opal and Mascot Towers or combustible cladding and the Grenfell Towers fire, the sector has been battered over recent years. The 1.2 million Queenslanders who live, work and play in strata properties need to feel safe and comfortable in their homes and we hope the Government works with us to deliver for them."

About Strata Community Association (Qld)

SCA (Qld) is the peak association supporting the state's strata sector, with more than 1,200 individual and corporate members who help oversee, advise, and manage hundreds of thousands of lots across Queensland. The association brings together people who manage strata schemes, own units or live in strata communities, and those who provide products and services for schemes. We also provide education, advice, and advocacy to enable better understanding of the regulations, obligations and owner's rights.

Ends.

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Strata Community Association (Qld) is the peak industry body for body corporate and community title management (strata management) in Queensland.

